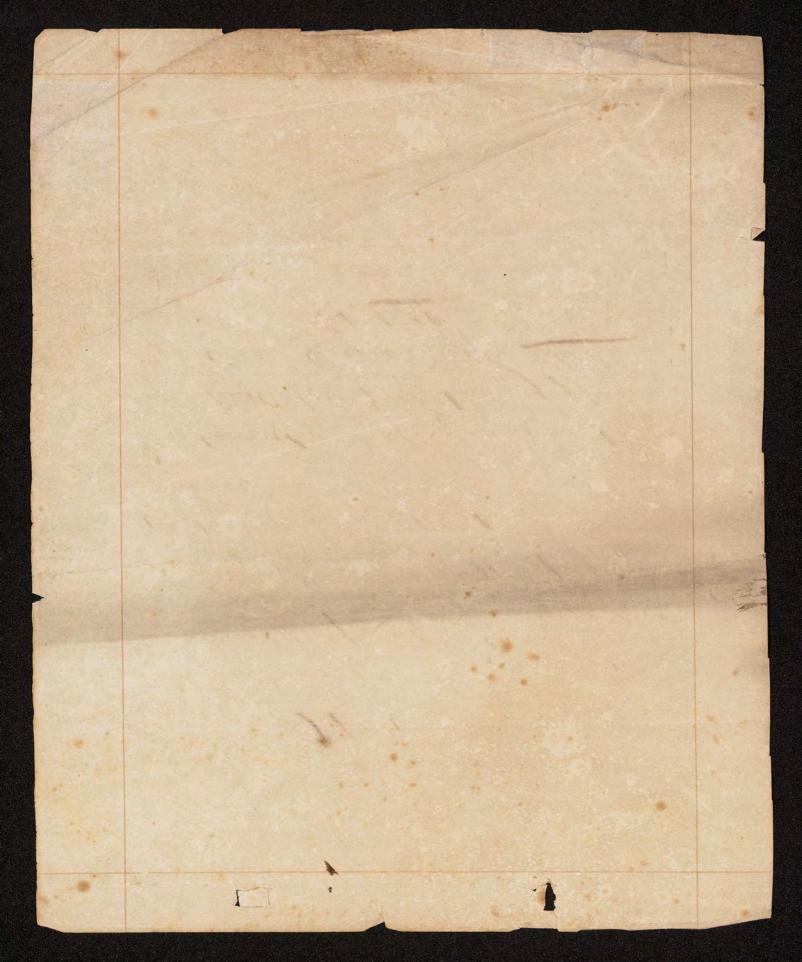
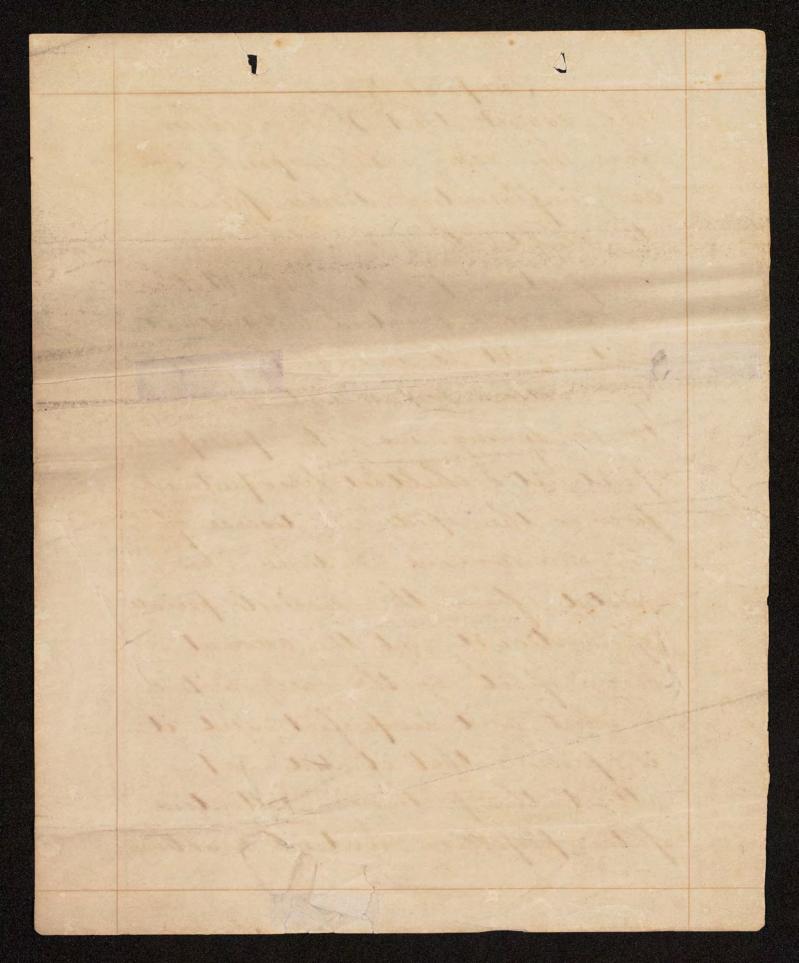
In Chay Puerperal Florer Menny ab Umstade of Mannowille Montgomery Ca Penna For the degree of MoD (Doctor of Medicine) of the Sefferson Medical College of Phila DE 1850 A 61

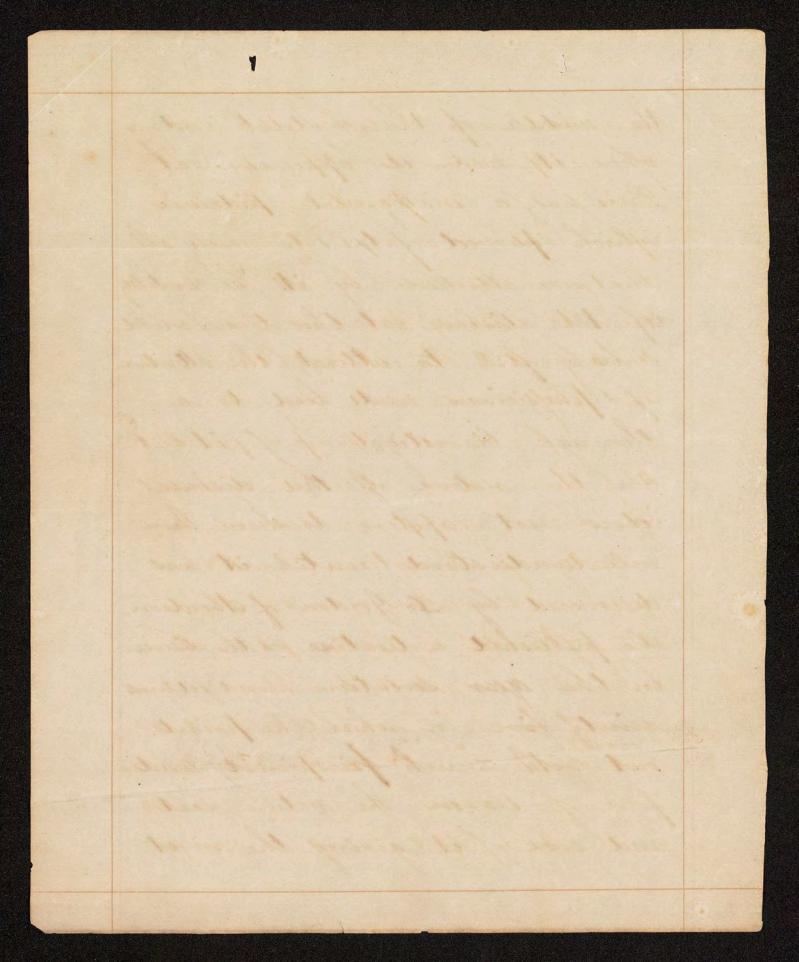


Purperal Grever The Subject that I have chosen for my essay is Puerperal fever an inflamatory disease peculiar to child-bed women The name was first employed by Dr. Strother in the year seventeen hundred and Sixteen. It is now generally adopted by medical miters and is considered to be synonymous with puerperal peritorities child-bed fever peritoneal fever or the epidemic disease of lying in women. The disease has existed from the earliests periods of antiquity but the account given of it by the early writers is short and imperfect and it is probable that it did not attract the particular attention of the peofession until near the

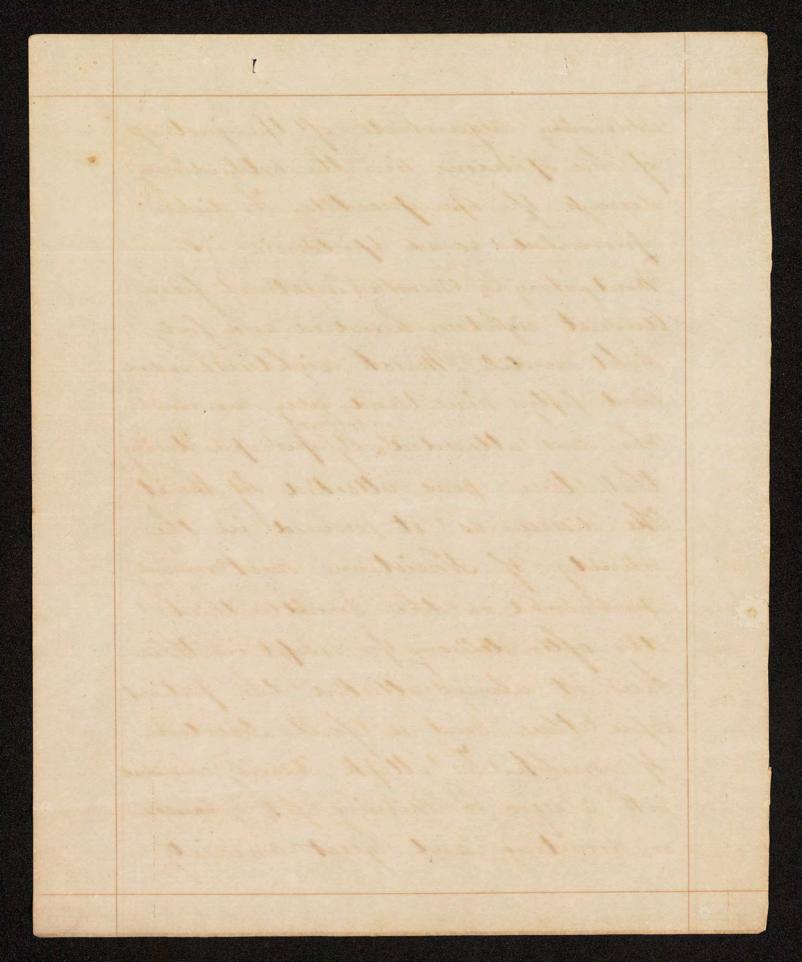


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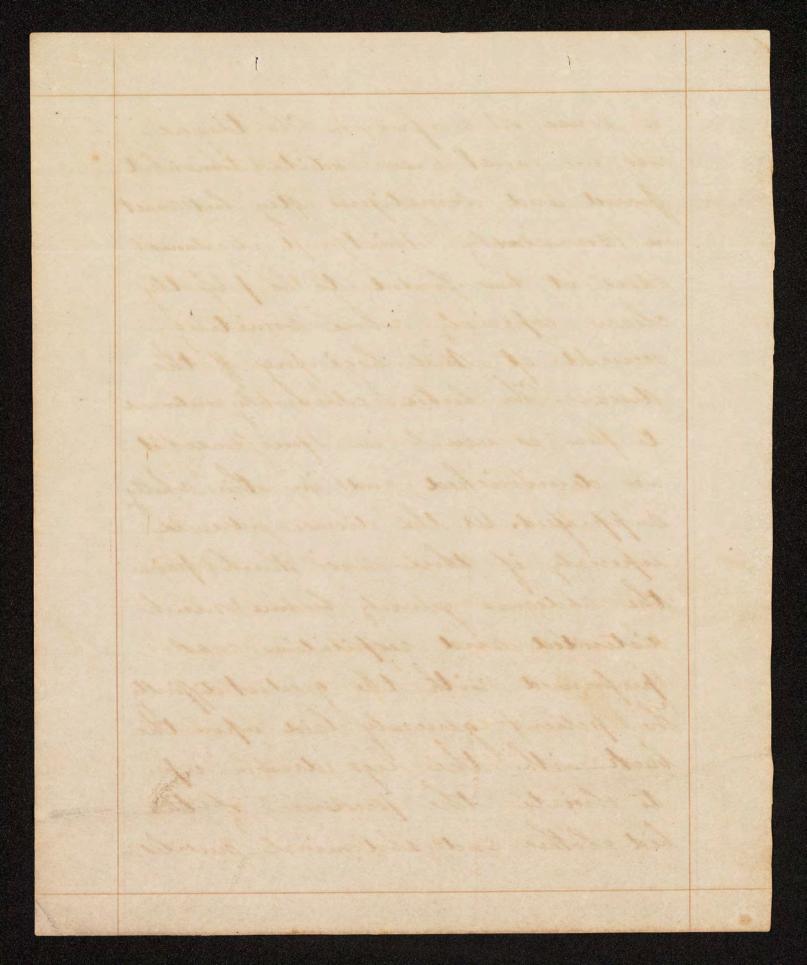
convincing arguments of the justness of his opinions in the extraordinary eneces of his practice. The disease prevailed as an epidemic in Montgomery Ca Brear Novietown form August eighteen hundred and forty dight until march eighteen hundred and forty nine and every woman in labourt who was attended by precepor during that time was attacked by the it The disease as it occured in the recivity of Novistoun most commonly Commenced on the Second or third day after delivery for except in three Cases it always attacked the patient before there was a full Secretion of milk. The attack usualy commenced with a sigor or shivering fit by mausea or bounting and great anexiety



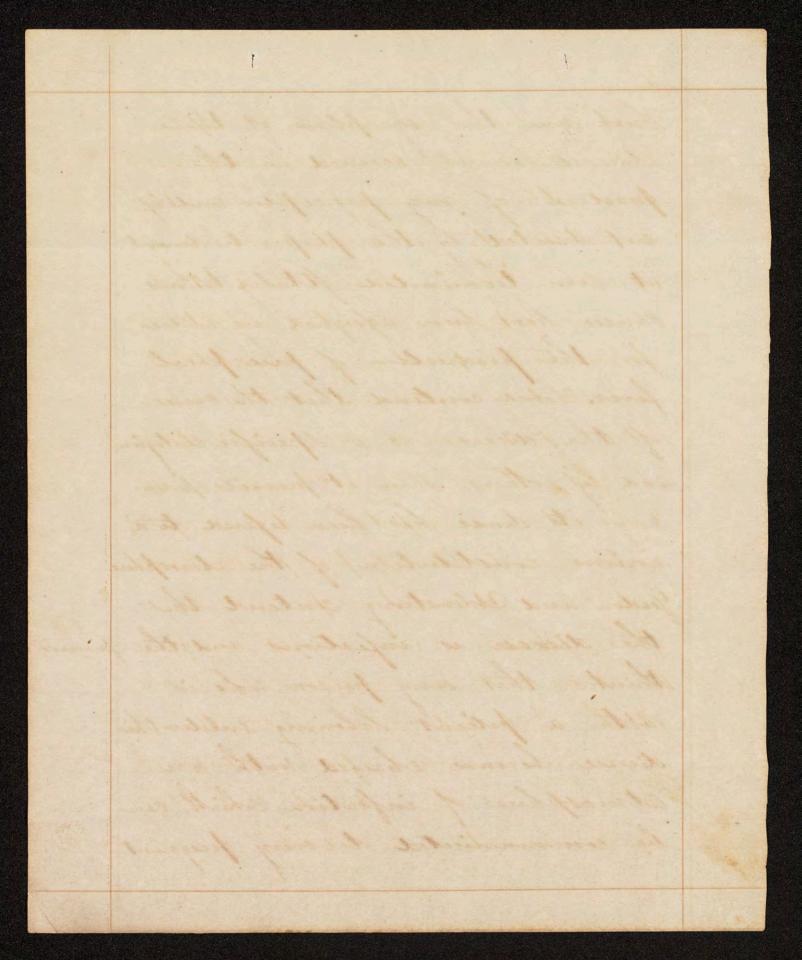
after the cold Stage had passed the Skin became hot and dry the thirst regent. the pulse seld on less than one hundred and twenty in the minute and rather full tense and vibating in some Cases very small and Sharp or somewhat viry Livere pain in the abdomen which was very tender to the touch and if presed whon caused great uneasines On Some Cases the pain was deep and oftere and more confined to one part but however limited in extent at first it gradually Spread over the whole abdomen which became very tender to the touch turned tense and by imparitie. The head was often affected with pain but more commonly with giddiness and

L lister the cold after south palace the layed to the palet with the wife there are themand and the thinks are their minute and when your land where from in the coldinary while for drawn tenter to the tenter tentered there and since my was to find that het warmer landet in what at fist it quite front in my time to the track themed chains in the operation to have now and work fith grading and

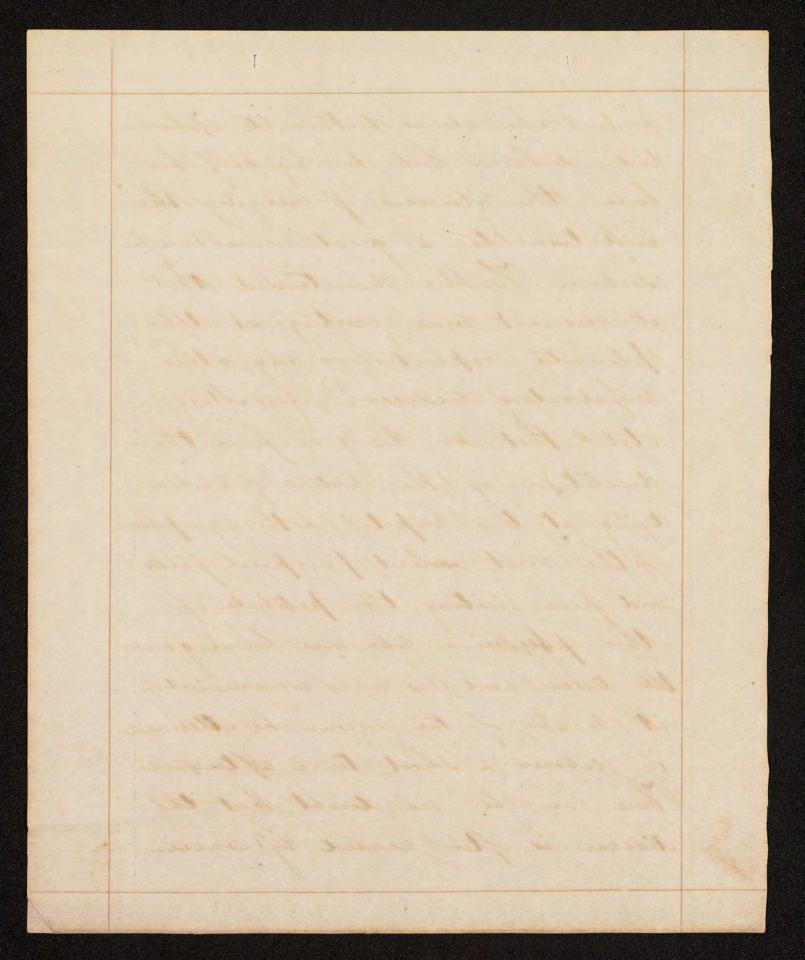
a sense of confusion. The longue was in most Cases White & Somewhat funed and sometimes dry but most in commonly moist and in some Cases it was found to be perfectly clean especialy where vomiting occured at the beginning of the disease. The lochia commonly continued to flow as usual in some cases it was deminished and in others wholly Suppressed. as the disease advanced especially if there was much pain the abdomen generally became much distended and respiration was performed with the greatest difficulty The patient generally laid upon the back with the legs drawn up to obviate the pressure of the bed clothes and abdominal muscles



Such were the symptoms of the disease as it occured in the practice of my preceptor and if not arrested by the proper treatment it soon terminated fatally bacious Causes have been assigned by miters for the production of puerperal fever. Some contend that the cause of the disease is a specific contagion and by others when it prevails epidem = realy its cause has been referred to a noxious constitution of the almosphere Gudon and Armsting contend that the disease is infectious and the former thinks that every person who is with a patient laboring under this disease becomes charged with an atmosphere of infection which can be communicated to every pregnent



roman who comes within its sphere and declares that he himself has been the means of carrying the infection to a great number of women. Hulme maintained that it was not more contagious than pleuritis Rephritis or any other infamatory disease. Trifefsor Meigs States that he has gone from the dissection of the bodies of Corner dying at the hospital with symptoms of the most rowlent puerperal fiver and from visiting the patients of other prescious who were laboring under This disease and has hever communicated it to any of the roomen he attended in labour a Short time afterwards There can be no doubt that the disease is often caused by somere



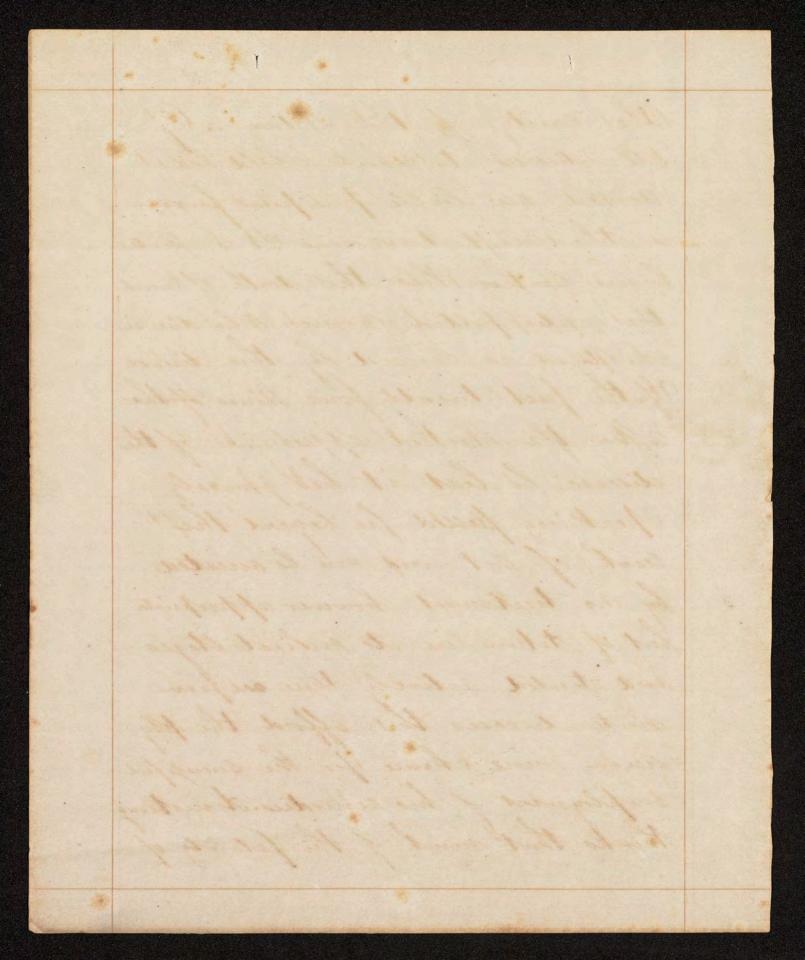
protracted and instrumental Sahours the forcible introduction of the hand into the reterns exposure to cold and moisture and inegularities in diet Som after delivery. Whatever Conclusion we may arrive at as to the contagious or noncontagions character of the disease it count affect the view that has been taken of its proximate cause or efsential nature for the symptoms morbid appearences and influence of remidies all prove whatever the nature of the unote cause may be that it acts by exciting inflamation of the Noterine organs. The dissection of pursons who have died of puer peral fever revales extensive inflamation of the peritoneum and its productions

T post which is not inseller winded historia when to it the second it all the can that had not the of presidents and defluences of worlder all forme the house the motion of the armet made that it aske to within in the material the lotions more the diade. Ale of formers who have they four paid pour excepts extended inflamed a of the fathering and it francision 水

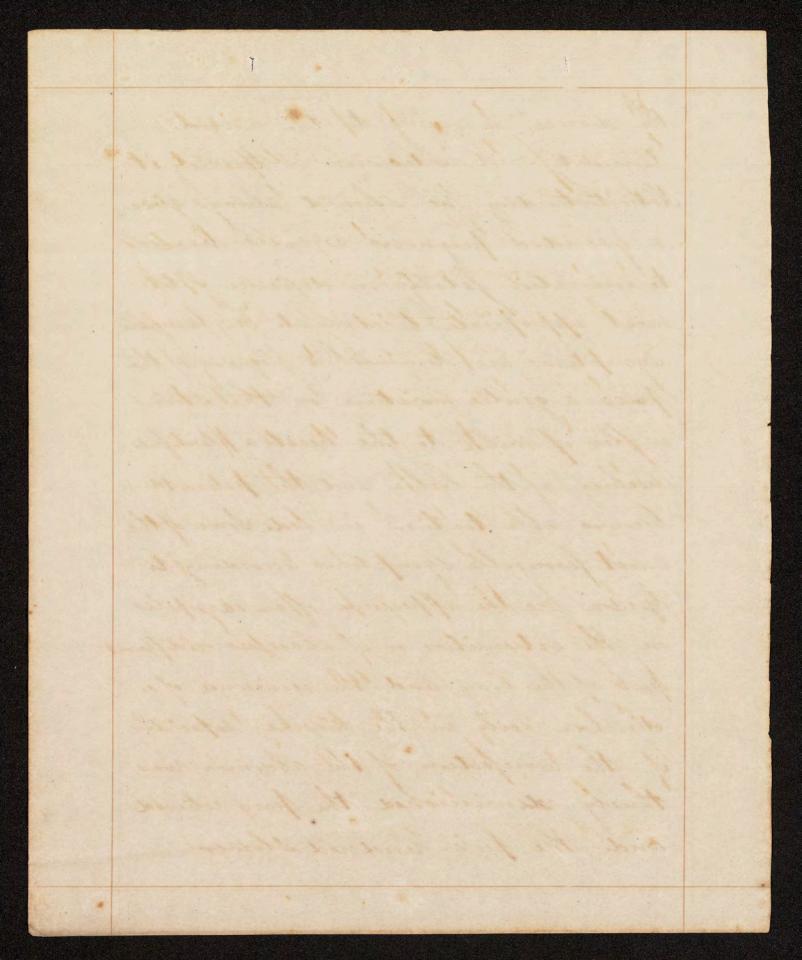
and of the ovaries On some cases the would is found to be gangrenous or loftened by inflamation and in others the veins of the rolerus are greatly inflamed and filled with inflamator deposits of lymph or gorged full of pus. Deposits of pus are sometimes found in the thorax or other remote parts of the body and to so great an extent as to give rise to the idea of a payogenic on pres ereating fever. The absorbents of the returns are affected in a manner similar to that of its views The amentum has been found lacerated and Sometimes nearly half of its substance roasted by suppuration Sometimes large quantities of a Surpunlent fluid are found in

in the property of a fraginger sente from the 1 water that of all since when there has been try from their A the second sec done throws he go print the of

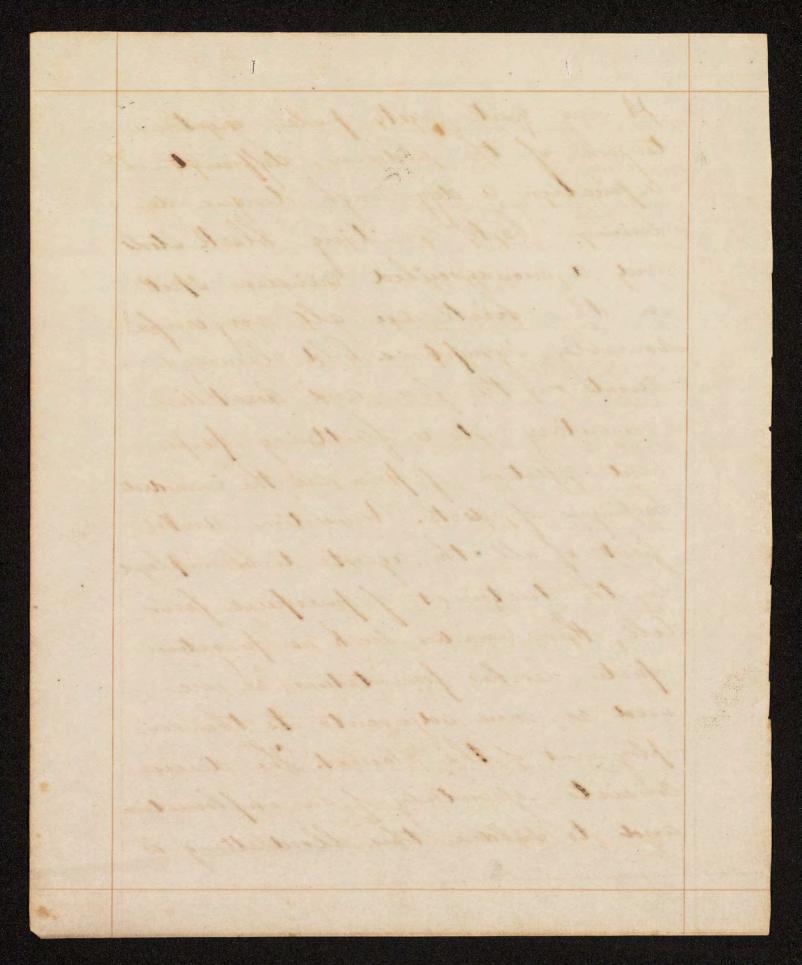
the cavity of the abdomen. Of all diseases to which Child bed Roomen are liable pumperal fever. is the most dangerous It is aperted by one author that the death of much the greater portion women who die in childhed is caused by this disease Of the first twenty four hours of the after the marked appearence of the disease be lost it has generally Speaking passed far beyond the reach of art and can be anested by no treatment - however appropriate but if taken in its earliesty Stages and treated actively there ise from acute diseases that afford the phy = Sician More chance for the Succepful employment of his remodies. Armstrong thinks that much of the fatality of



the disease is owing to the Pantion timidity and indesision in treating it Notwithstanding we should always give a gaurded prognosis as enses have terminated fatally in defiance of the most appropriate treatment. The favouable Symptoms are deminished frequency of the Julee a gentle moisture on the Skin a flow of wilk to the heasts a plentiful discharge of the lochia and the patient becomes able tosture in bed. Some of the most favourable symptoms according to Gordon are the appearence of an expipilus on the extremities or of abscepses on different parts of the body and the occurrence of a diarrhoea early in the disease especially if the timefaction of the abdomen was thereby reduniniohed the pain relieved and the pulse rendered Slower



A very quiek weak pulse great tension of the abdomen difficult respiration a dry rough longue de - leinen back vomiting black Stools and a cucumserihed Prinson Spot on the check are all very empa - bourable Symptoms. bold claiming Sweats on the face and beast in - voluntary stools, fluttering pulse and cepation of pain are the immediate harbingers of death. Venesection ranks first of all the agents to be employed in the treatment of puerpual fever all other remedies buch as purgatives opiates beeches formentations &c. are used as mere adjuvants to the em - playment of the lancet. The disease Consists essentially of an inflamation and to subdue this bloodletting is



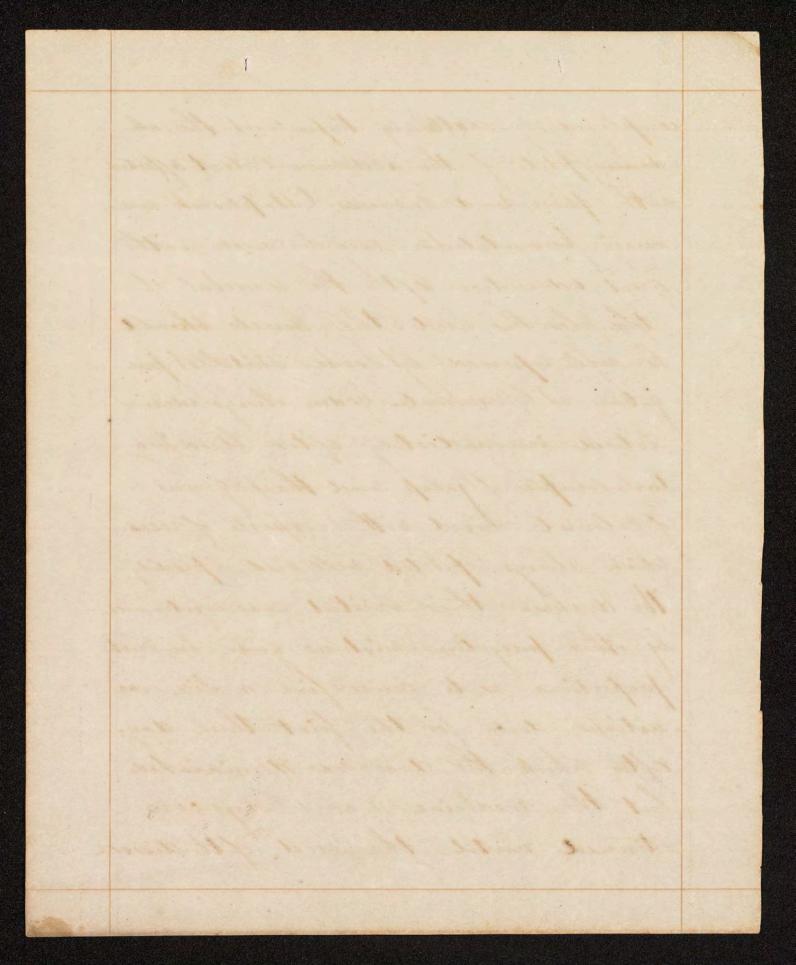
the only agent that can be depended upon The lancet should be employed early and pacely for if energetic means be not resorted to within twelve hours after the attack and at times within six all the efforts of the physician may prove futile Godon if called within twelve hours after the attack always insisted on bleeding and places his standard at twenty four ounces as the quantity to be drown and states that he never failed to One the disease at once when he was called early and took that quantity of block at one bleeding. Hey. Anstrong Lee and Prof. Meigs all concur with him in Execomending. The early and free use of the lancet Trop. Meigs makes us objection to his Standard ashich is

Y the sectofied it to the prosest afaile of the start at the text the seafthers her ned parte for af theological ways i de de la la Maria de la in and the white of the presenting have for the forter of indich with the same of the same the second of the second will have be prothe land to the dead and the and I stilled from the stilled in demonstrating, the east and for of the heart of when makes no expection to the standard the total

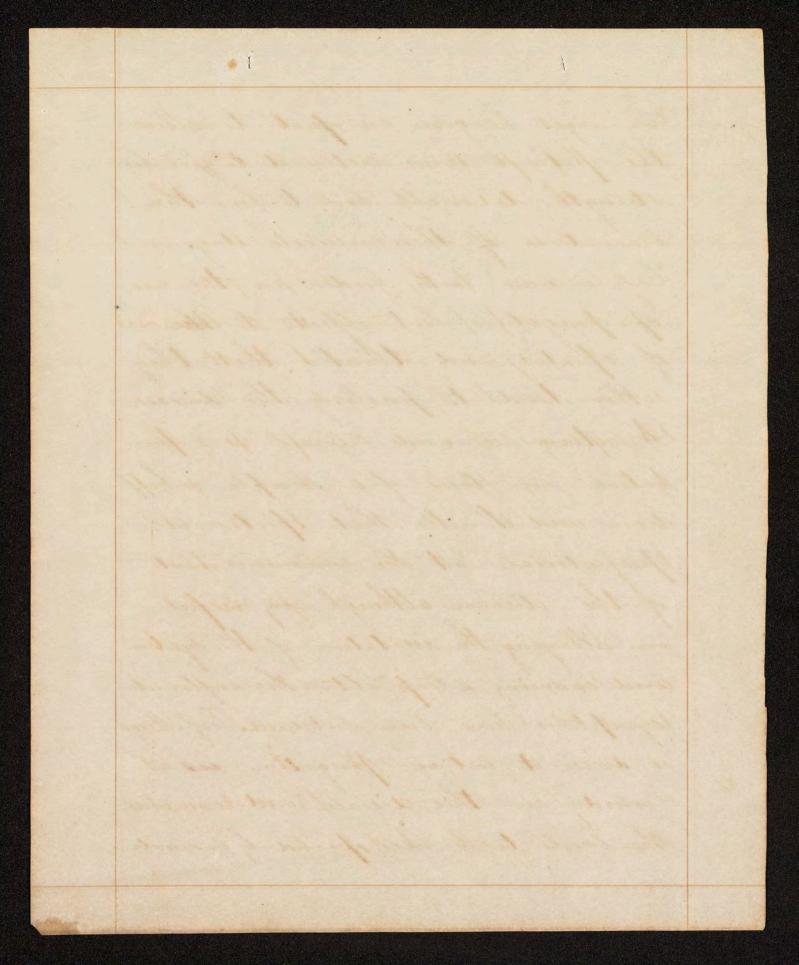
Concurred in by Hey with Certain exceptions and thinks that it is sufficiently large to effect the desurable degree of reduction in most cases but is not willing to adopt it as a general rule since the Same effect is produced in some by twenty four ownces in others by that and in others again by twelve on fifteen. We Should always bleed until the descreable effect is produced and let the pulse the heathing the cepation poin and the general sensations of the patient declare that enough has been done and not too much nor too little of the pain in the abdonur is not removed or greath relieved by the operation in lix hours it ought to be repeated. Its an adjuvant to venesection leeches may be feely

in it is the total to the company in come of the said that we have to and the said to any the adjust the orientees and the A CONTRACT OF THE PARTY OF THE at the first of the state from land does not have to be much my to the file for a to the second some the second colored to forter with him I wight to in experience the answer of the the same of the same of the same

employed by scattering them over the ab - dome parts of the abdomen most affected with pain and Soveress. Cataplasms and warm formentations may be used with great advantage after the removal of the leeches and the browels should be well opened by some suitable pur = gative or by enemata Gudon always admin istered immediately after bleeding two scruples of jalap and these grains of Calonel riged with conserve of roses which always operated well and speedily The duchoea thus excited was continued by other purgative mixtures given in such proportions as to cause five or lix evac - nations daily for the first three days after which the dose was deminished but the medicine was always con tinued until the end of the disease



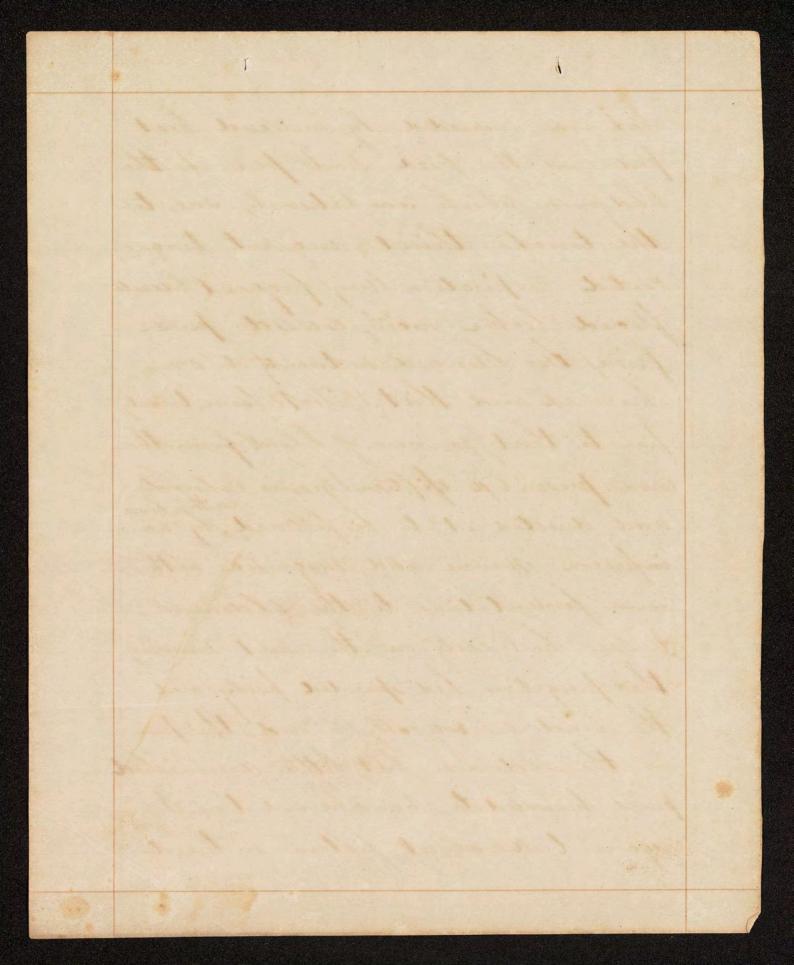
Every night he give an opiate to allow the patient some rest and to give her strength to enable her to bear the evacuations of the ensuing day. Bey Coincides with Gordon in the use of purgatives but objects to the use of opiates and thinks that they rather tend to purolong the disease Austrong recomends Calonel as a four - gative in closes of a surple or half draw and thinks that opiates are prejudicial at the commoncement of the disease although very useful in alloying the initation of the system and inducing Sleep abter the inflametry symptoms have been Subdued Trof Meigs is averse to active purgation is a remedy in this disease and recomends The bowels to be well ofened by enemata



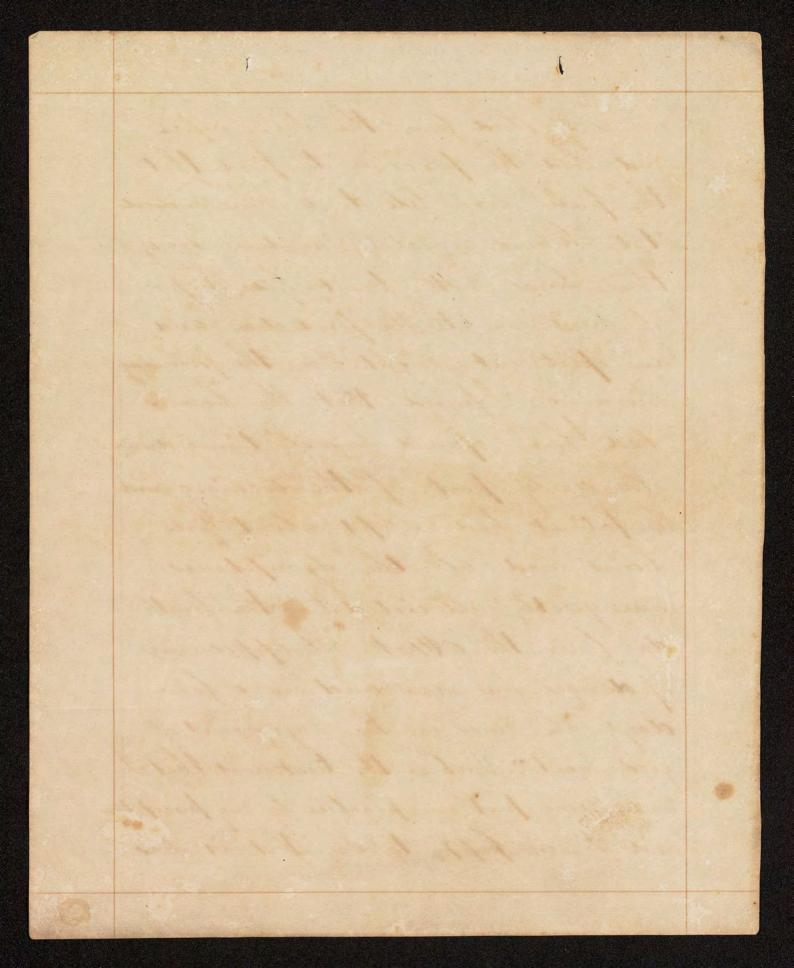
or by Calonel followed by Castor oil and after the operation Calonel and opins on Colonel and Der Pow with warm muci laginous drinks. Theseleve after the evacuation of the bruels to promote prespiction Which when properly excited crontrol in a very reseful manner the internal disorders of the circulation. The following description of a case of puerperal fever taken from the noterbook of my preceptor will Sense to Show the treatment that was most brecepful as the disease occurred in his practice "Mus We a young woman in health Noas delivered of her Second child on the Right day of December eighteen hun - and and forty eight after a Short and easy labour. The third day after delivery was attacked with a chill

r The the fortend of it of the ded the fit as yet is not the inter dear to white the trickers the state the settlement in their here the set for the state a dead of a color die was allet a let in the second

Which was succeeded by increased heat pain in the head Levere pain in the abdomen which was extremely some to the touch thist urgent tongue Coated respiration very frequent herests flaccid lochia nearly ceased pulse from the hundred antwenty to an hundred and thirty. Took from twenty five to thirty ownces of blood from the and directed it to be followed by an infusion manna and magnesia with women formentations to the abdomen I saw her early on the next morning The purgatives had operated feely and The head ache progreatly relieved the pain in the abdomen but little deminished pulse thundred to hundred and ten. I again took about fifteen or twenty



ounces of blood from the Same crifice and had the pleasure to find that the pulse Ivon fell to a more moderate State Ordered a Saline Mixture every thee hours with twenty fine drops of landrum to the first dose and an opicte at night. On the following morning I found that the bowels had been opened Several times during The early part of the evening and The patient had Slept about five hours and all the Symptons were greatly alleviated. On the fourth day from the attack all appearence of danger was over and in a few days the was in the enjoyment of good healt? Inch is the treatment that I have seen put in practice by my preceptor and I am pappy to Day that it has



never disappointed his hopes of luccess except in two cases and one of these I have every reason to believe that the disease had paped far bejond the cumble Stage before the delivery of the Child.

